



MINUTES
PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING

August 4, 2026

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. James, Chair, District IV

Mr. Mize, District III

Mr. Hart, District V

The Planning and Economic Development Committee met at 4:30 p.m. in Council Chambers, Oconee Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all members present, as well as County Administrator Stewart Jones, Deputy Administrator Phil Shirley, County Attorney Rob Chumley [absent], and Jennifer C. Adams, Clerk to Council, present.

Staff Present: Ms. DeAnn Hester / Planning Director

Press Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting, date, time, place of meeting and agenda were posted on the bulletin board at the County Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC, and the County Council website [www.oconeesc.com/council]. In addition, it was made available [upon request] to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.

Press Present: None

Call to Order

Mr. James called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m.

Moment of Silence

Mr. James asked for a moment of silence prior to the invocation.

Invocation

Mr. Mize gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Shirley led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Hart made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mize, approved 3 - 0, to approve the July 07, 2026 special meeting minutes as presented.

A video recording of this meeting is available at www.oconeesc.com. Meetings have been live-streamed beginning January 17, 2017. Brought to you by Your Oconee.

Discussion & Action Regarding the Following Items

Update regarding review of Chapters 26 (Roads), 32 (Design Standards), and 38 (Zoning) of the Oconee County Code of Ordinances – Ms. DeAnn Hester / Planning Director

Ms. Hester provided the Committee with a brief update regarding the review of Chapters 26 (Roads), 32 (Design Standards), and 38 (Zoning) of the Oconee County Code of Ordinances that is being performed by the Oconee County Planning Commission.

Ms. Hester noted that 2 public information meetings have been held, the portal for public comments related to the ordinance revisions is still open, and two Planning Commission workshops have been completed with more to follow, noting she is concerned about hitting the deadline for revisions.

Ms. Hester provided answers to all questions brought forth by Committee members.

Discussion regarding Chapters 26, 32 and 38 of the Oconee County Code of Ordinances

Mr. Hart invited Mr. Tom Markovich, a local builder, to share his thoughts with the Committee regarding ordinance revisions to chapters 26, 32 and 38 of the code of ordinances.

Mr. Markovich shared his opinion and recommendations with the Committee related to the revisions of the above-mentioned ordinances, including expressing his thoughts related to Mr. Hart and Mr. Mize's questions about subdivisions and County right-of-way on State and County roads.

Mr. Hart recommended that the County's 25-foot right-of-way needs to be examined closer and possibly lessened or removed.

Mr. James, Committee Chair, noted that he would like to address this topic at the next meeting to give the Planning Commission time to make recommendations.

Ms. Hester, Planning Director, informed the Committee that set-backs in every zoning class will be addressed by the Planning Commission as part of the ordinance review process, noting they have not reached that section as of now.

Adjourn:

Mr. Hart made a motion to adjourn, approved unanimously, at 4:53 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jennifer C. Adams
Clerk to Council

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